

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

2615 S. Grand Avenue, Suite 100  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90007



United We Stand



Joseph N. Smith  
Director

November 29, 2011

**ADOPTED**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

55 November 29, 2011

*Sachi A. Hamai*  
SACHI A. HAMAI  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

**ACCEPT STATE FUNDS UNDER CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 63 (MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE  
FUND)  
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)  
(3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

The California Department of Veterans Affairs (CDVA) has awarded the Department of Military & Veterans Affairs Proposition 63 funding in the amount of \$60,000 to fund one full-time equivalent (FTE) position for the Veteran System Navigator Program for mental health outreach activities. The grant covers the period of October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Accept the Proposition 63 funds in the amount of \$60,000.
2. Authorize the Director of Department of Military and Veterans Affairs to use these funds for mental health outreach activities.

**PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

The purpose of these actions is to continue funding one position in the Veterans Services Division to administer the implementation of the Veteran System Navigators. System Navigators for Veterans is a program established in 2009 that assists Veterans transitioning from military to civilian life (combat to community), including Veterans having difficulty with re-integration which require

assistance with employment, education, socialization, children and family issues, substance abuse, domestic violence and homelessness. This program works with Veterans and their families to help them identify their needs, develop an action plan, access knowledgeable service providers, and join a support network.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The recommended actions support the County's Strategic Goal 4: Health and Mental Health and the mission of this Department.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The recommended actions will have no impact on net county cost. This program is fully financed by California Proposition 63 funds. Funds from this program is budgeted as part of the annual budget.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

California Proposition 63 (now known as the Mental Health Services ACT or MHSA), passed in 2004 provides increased funding for personnel and other resources to support county mental health programs. DMVA initiated action to obtain a portion of those monies from CDVA to provide services to returning combat veterans.

Following DMVA's efforts, the CDVA transferred \$60,000 of its annual budget to DMVA on 09/23/09 to fund one FTE position for the Veteran System Navigator Program which is automatically renewed for successive Fiscal Years. Concurrent with this funding, one FTE position was obtained from the Chief Executive Office to start the program and was included in the FY 2009-2010 Budget. CDVA is renewing this funding to pay Military & Veterans Affairs the total amount not to exceed \$60,000 for the period covering October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012. Payment will be made in accordance with the MOU between DMVA and CDVA which memorializes the use of the funds.

The DMVA and CDVA entered into a Memorandum of Understanding for the period October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012 to memorialize DMVA's administration of the Veteran System Navigator Services referred to in this Board Letter. That MOU is attached here as Attachment A.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The recommended actions will enhance current services and ensure continuation of the Department's mental health outreach activities.

### **CONCLUSION**

Upon approval of this request, please instruct the Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors to send the original Board letter and attachments to

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs  
Attention: Joseph N. Smith  
2615 S. Grand Avenue, Room 100

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

11/29/2011

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Los Angeles, California 90007

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph N. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'J'.

JOSEPH N. SMITH

Director

JNS: rb

Enclosures

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel  
Chief Executive Officer

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
AND  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**

**SUBJECT:** Proposition 63 funding awarded to the Los Angeles County Veterans Service Office (CVSO) for mental health outreach activities.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this agreement is to establish expectations for the spending of the Prop 63 funding provided to your office in this fiscal year.

**BACKGROUND:** The Department of Mental Health (DMH) has awarded the California Department of Veterans Affairs funding to pass through the CVSO operation for mental health outreach to our 2 million veterans in California with an emphasis on our discharging troops who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan. Your office has submitted a Request for Proposal (RFP) in FY 2008 outlining what your office would do with this funding. This office will carry forward the 2008 (RFP) for FY 11/12. This MOU will document the activities that you have agreed to perform with this funding.

**AGREEMENT:** The Los Angeles CVSO agrees to use the \$60,000.00 for mental health outreach activities in your county with an emphasis on the newly discharging soldiers, National Guard and Reserve soldiers that have been deployed. Your office agrees to do outreach to veterans and document this outreach with veteran's reintegration forms that have been provided to you by CDVA/Vet Services Division for input into Veteran Reintegration Management System (VRMS). You will collect this information even if the veteran or soldier does not live in your county, and send it to the Veteran Services Division. Submissions will be made as the information is collected. The purpose this outreach is to direct these veterans and soldiers into the Federal VA healthcare system and get them screened for any mental or physical health problems that they may have.

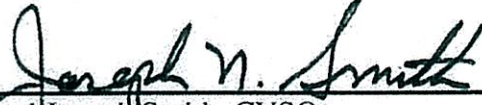
**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012

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Jack Kirwan  
Deputy Secretary, Administration  
California Department of Veterans Affairs

Date

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Colonel Joseph Smith, CVSO  
Los Angeles County

  
Date